

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in the application and are rejected.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-4 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 3 of co-owned U.S. Patent No. 6,732,599. The Examiner asserts that although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are directed towards substantially the same subject matter.

Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer that disclaims any portion of any patent resulting from the present application that would extend beyond the term of U.S. Patent No. 6,732,599.

Applicants believe that the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer overcomes the rejections of record.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

Application No. 10/811,832
Art Unit: 3683

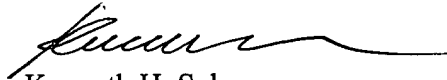
Attorney Docket No. 011578A

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Kenneth H. Salen
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,077
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

KHS/dt

Enclosures: Terminal Disclaimer